

ANARHICHAS PANTHERINUS.



CHARACTER GENERICUS.

Caput obtusiusculum.

Dentes primores supra infraque conici, divergentes, sex pluresve.

Molares inferiores palatique rotundati.

Membr. branch. radiis sex.

Corpus teretiusculum, pinna caudæ distincta.

CHARACTER SPECIFICUS, &c.

ANARHICHAS luteus, maculis rotundatis fuscis.

ANARHICHAS PANTHERINUS. A. maculis per totum corpus rotundis fuscis.

Zouiew act. Petrop. 1781.

Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel. p. 1144.

In Actis Petropolitanis primum descripta fuit hæc species, cujus longitudo tres circiter pedes æquat.

“ Corpus teretiusculum, ventricosum, lanceolatum, a medio ventre, ubi crassities ejus maxima est, ad caudam, sensim decrescens, nudum, lubricum, squamarum loco punctis minoribus concoloribus adpersum; cute firma, densa, coloris luteo-flavescentis, maculis per totum corpus et pinnam

dorsalem, excepta parte prona, rotundis, fuscis, majoribus notatum. Caput subglobosum; labia duplicata; rictus amplus; palato inserti dentes septem; oculi majusculi; dissiti; branchiarum apertura lunata, coarctata, opercula ex laminis duabus conflata; pinnæ pectorales amplissimæ, rotundatæ; anus post medium corporis ad exordium pinnæ ani: linca lateralis nulla: cauda lanceolata, ad pinnam subcaudalem torosior quam ad dorsalem.

“ Habitat in Oceano Septentrionali et Mari Albo. A Russis in esum non trahitur etiamsi caro ejus laudetur.”



THE
PANTHER ANARHICHAS.



GENERIC CHARACTER.

Head rather obtuse.

Fore-Teeth both above and below conical, divergent, strong, six or more in number.

Grinders in the lower jaw and palate rounded.

Gill Membrane six-rayed.

Body roundish: tail-fin distinct.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER, &c.

Yellow Wolf-Fish, with rounded brown spots.

The Panther Wolf-Fish.

This species, which measures about three feet in length, seems to have been first described in the Petersburg Transactions. The body is subcylindrical, ventricose, and lanceolate, gradually decreasing from the middle of the abdomen, where it is thickest, to the tail. It is naked, slippery, and beset in place of scales with small points of the same colour with the skin, which is thick and strong, and of a deep yellow, marked throughout the whole body except the under part, as well as on

the dorsal fin, with round, large, dusky spots : the head is subglobose ; the lips doubled, and the gape wide : in the palate are inserted seven teeth : the eyes are rather large and distant : the branchial apertures lunated and straitened, and the gill-covers consist of two plates on each side : the pectoral fins are very large and rounded : the vent is situated beyond the middle of the body, at the beginning of the anal fin : the lateral line is wanting : the tail is lanceolate, and is thicker towards the subcaudal fin than towards the dorsal one. It is a native of the Northern and White Seas, and though the flesh is said to be agreeable, is not eaten by the Russians.